

PRESS NOTICE

BILL NETTLES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York Resident Sentenced to 25 Months in Prison for Possession of 73 Stolen Debit and Gift Cards

Columbia, South Carolina---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that Mulazim Woods, age 30, of Arverne, New York, was sentenced Monday, October 4, 2011 in federal court in Florence, South Carolina, for possession of 15 or more counterfeit or unauthorized access devices, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1029(a)(3). United States District Judge Terry L. Wooten of Florence sentenced Woods to 25 months imprisonment followed by 3 years of supervised release.

Evidence presented at the guilty plea hearing established that on October 1, 2010, Woods was stopped by a Florence County Deputy Sheriff on Interstate 95 for failure to display a vehicle license plate. The deputy became suspicious when Woods and his occupant gave conflicting stories as to their destinations. A search

was conducted of the vehicle and 73 counterfeit debit and gift cards were discovered. The United States Secret Service was contacted and it was subsequently determined that Woods was traveling from New York, New York, where he had stolen the unauthorized access devices from an unknown individual.

The case was investigated by agents of the Florence County Sheriff's Office and the United States Secret Service. Assistant United States Attorney William E. Day, II of the Florence office handled the case.

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